



August 28, 2020

For immediate release

For more information, contact: Kim Engel, Director, 308-760-2415, kengel@pphd.org

**Reminder: Panhandle Unified Command will be updating their communications
Panhandle total: 623, Active: 95, Recovered: 522, Deaths: 6**

Panhandle Unified Command will be updating their communications to the following:

- Afternoon briefings will be held on Mondays and Thursdays @ 2pm beginning Monday, August 31. Registration is available on our website at www.pphd.org.
- News releases with case reports will also be aligned with briefings on Mondays and Thursdays. Additional news releases will be issued as needed.
- The risk dial will be updated and discussed on the Monday briefing each week.
- The dashboard will remain being updated weekdays @430pm.

Unified Command confirms nine more cases of COVID in the Panhandle. The investigations are complete, all close contacts will be quarantined and actively monitored for symptoms by public health officials.

Children 19 and under: 2		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Box Butte	1	Close Contact
Sheridan	1	Close Contact

Adults: 7		
County	Cases	Exposure Type
Box Butte	1	Close Contact
Dawes	1	Close Contact
Dawes	1	Community Spread
Scotts Bluff	3	Close Contact
Scotts Bluff	1	Community Spread

Unified Command confirms 15 more recoveries in the Panhandle:

Recovered: 15	
County	Total
Cheyenne	1
Dawes	10

Garden	1
Scotts Bluff	1
Sheridan	2

Testing information and access for the Panhandle area:

- You can sign up for the following free testing at [Testnebraska.com](https://www.testnebraska.com) or 402-207-9377:
 - Box Butte General Hospital in **Alliance**: Monday-Friday, 9-10am
 - Ambulance Bay on the east side of the emergency department, watch for the green arrows
 - **Chadron** Community Hospital: Mondays & Fridays, 7-9am
 - Collections are at 821 Morehead Street (Old Hospital ER Entrance next to Wilson Park)
 - **Other testing opportunities for symptomatic patients may be available through the hospital as ordered by your Primary Care Practitioner, call the Hospital at 747-2466 with questions.**
 - **Gordon** Memorial Hospital: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2-4pm
 - Regional West Health Services in **Scottsbluff**: Monday-Friday, Noon-4pm
 - **Sidney** Regional Medical Center: Tuesdays & Thursday, 7-9am
- Community Action Health Center in **Gering**: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays, 7-8am
 - Testing is free, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/ydxdx5mc>
- Morrill County Community Hospital in **Bridgeport**: Daily
 - Call 308-262-1616 for testing, same day results
- Contact your local hospital or clinic for information on testing access.

March 2-August 28, 2020

- **Total Tests Conducted: 11,089**
- **Positive: 623**
- **Cumulative Positivity Rate: 5.6%**
- **Recovered: 522**
- **Active Cases: 95**
- **Deaths: 6**
- **Active Hospitalizations: 9**
- **Total Cumulative Hospitalizations: 63**

Panhandle Public Health District, Region 21, 22, and 23 Emergency Management, and Scotts Bluff County Health Department are working as a unified command on this evolving situation. Essential updates will be regularly communicated to the public and community partners.

For the most up to date information from the CDC, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety, and quality of life for all who live, learn, work, and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Community. Visit our website www.pphd.org.